Specialized Autism Programs in NYC Public Schools



Nest
Horizon

AIMS
(Acquisition, Integrated Services,
Meaningful Communication and Social Skills)

For more information, please refer to NYC Public School's Specialized Programs for Students with Disabilities.

Grades K-12

- Reduced Classrooms with Integrated Co-Teaching (ICT) class (students with and without Individualized Education Programs [IEPs])
- 1 special education and 1 general education co-teachers
- Grade level curriculum with appropriate autism supports
- Social Development Intervention (SDI) to support social communication and build peer relationships provided by a speech therapist and supported by classroom teacher
- · Parent counseling and training
- Students graduate from high school in 4 years with a 95% graduation rate (above the citywide average)

Grades K-12

- Special class (only students with IEPs; small class of 8 students)
- 1 special education teacher and 1 paraprofessional
- Grade level curriculum with appropriate autism supports
- Horizon social curriculum to support social communication and build peer relationships provided by a speech therapist and supported by classroom teacher and paraprofessional
- Instructional, social-emotional & behavior support for students based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)
- Parent counseling and training
- Students graduate from high school in 4 years with a 95% graduation rate (above the citywide average).

Early Childhood Program - Grades K-2

- Special class (only students with IEPs; small class of 6 students)
- 1 special education teacher, 1 speech provider and 1 paraprofessional
- Access to grade level curriculum with appropriate modifications, including use of individual and small group instruction
- Focus on language development, functional communication, activities of daily living, preacademic, and social skills
- Instructional, social-emotional & behavior support through Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) provided by a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- Parent counseling and training
- Students leave the program after 2nd grade
- As of school year 2023-24, available in Districts 15, 29, and 75

Individual speech, occupational, physical therapy, and counseling may be recommended based on a child's needs and balanced with the embedded supports provided in each program.

